The Sunday Tribune's News and Reviews of Books and Authors

Another Pretty Lady

By Burton Rascoe

LILIAN. By Arnold Bennett. Published by the George H. Doran Company. New York: 1922.

THIS is the lightest and most didactic book Mr. Bennett has ever written. He wishes to teach us that it is possible for a personable young woman to exploit her charms without benefit of clergy and not come to a bad end. But few of us, except Mr. Bennett, ever doubted it. One wonders why he is so vehement about it. One wonders why he contrasts Lillan with every one in the novel who is not minded to order her life in Lilion's fashion so much to Lilian's glory and her foils' disadvantage. He calls them frumps and dowds and all sorts of things. He makes them out to be cats and cowards, snakes in the grass and unfortunate, unhappy, mean spirited girls and women. So much emphasis is not necessary, I think, to convince the toughest minded of the reasonableness of his unimportant little thesis. Lilian is very likeable and interesting and selfsufficient without so many oblique compliments.

Lilian is the daughter of a middle class proprietor of an art school. Mr. Bennett wishes to tell us at this point that because one identifies himself with art, runs an art school and even paints pictures which are accepted and hung by the Royal Academy one may be a dub and an ignoramus of the worst possible sort. Lilian's father does all these things and he was without talent or appreciation or anything except that "he had realized his own ambitions and was a merry soul sunk in contentment. The world held nothing that he wanted and did not possess. He looked up to the upper classes without envy or jealousy, and read about them with ingenuous joy. He had no instinct for any sort of elegance" He lost his money through bad judgment on the market and died without a penny. He had kept Lilian home to look at, and she had not learned to earn her

living. She was thrown upon the world.

The situation is perilous, because, as Mr. Bennett has been careful to point out, Lillan had precisely what her father did not have-a taste for elegance. The manner in which Mr. Bennett uses that phrase leaves you in no doubt but that Mr. Bennett also possesses that taste. Lilian is fascinated by beautiful clothes. Mr. Bennett knows women's clothes as well as Mr. Hergesheimer, perhaps even better, because Mr. Bennett was once the editor of a woman's fashion magazine. Lilian gets a job as a typist in an all-night typing establishment. It seems that they have such things in London. An elegant young man comes in at 2 o'clock one morning with some work to do. Lilian thought: "He must be a man-As we will also more conference falls for an intervention and such as the conference fall of an intervention and such as the conference fall of the conference f about-town, a clubman, the genuine article." The man, Mr. Bennett tells us, "would have been overdressed had he not worn his marvellous and costly garments with absolute naturalness and simplicity." Lilian in-

ichaes the minacintal copie who would ware the sea. And he knew that it was all illusion, this great peace, this glittering star, this gently phosphore-excent deep, that it was but a garment and a painted curtain by which the soul must not let itself be queted. Blaint if were teror and horror and unfathomable pain. He understood, he understood at last."

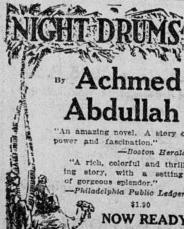
After his nightmare dialogue with the rusty devil of eternity Ivan Karmanaed understood at last. The understood at last were the complete of the following of the following and point of the devil to Ivan Christian Wahnschaffe suffered no such merciful escape from the rack of the tough world. In the slime of fundamental evil, in that fearful confession of Niels Reinrich, Christian faced the ultimate and incorable horror of the tough world. In the slime of fundamental evil, in that fearful confession of Niels Reinrich, Christian faced the ultimate and incorable horror of the tough world. In the slime of fundamental evil, in that fearful confession of Niels Reinrich, Christian faced the ultimate and incorable horror of the tought world. The world world is the confine recommendation of the season of the world of the season of the



MAJOR STEDE BONNET

An illustration from "Pirates," by C. Lovat Fraser (McBride)

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It is not the Japan of panicky Lothrop Stoddards and California chambers of commerce in whose sul-try dreams small but hard-builed Niptry dreams small but hard-bolled Nipponese samurais wave two-handed
swords, cry "Hitogoroshi! Hitogoroshi!

—Kill! Kill!" and pounce upon a
supine and peaceful Western world
with a super-Prussian efficiency and
the biological threat that, hereafter,
all babies on this side of the Pacific
must be born with butter-yellow skin,
smooth, black hair and glistening sliteyes.

Quite different is the land of Mr. J. H. Gubbins' "The Making of Modern Japan." He is, by the way, the same Gubbins, formerly first and Japanese secretary of the British Embassy in Tokio, who some time ago published the monumental three-volume dictionary of Chinese-Japanese words in the Japanese language, a work to be compared as to legical, scholarly finesse and philological exactness only to John Richardson's famous eighteenth century dictionary of Persian, Arabic and English, and to Dr. Savary's Arabic grammar published by orders of Napoleon I and be it remembered that to this day, for the acquisition of the latter two books, staid Oxford dons of Magdalen and Brazenose kilt up their robes and engage in fistic combats on High Street.

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An Inspiring Autobiography

By Stanton A. Coblentz

dimness of many ears. Certainly, there is more that is humanly appealing, in the first quarter of the book and we warm a little more quickly toward Rainsford, the thild and the struggling youth, than we do toward Rainsford, the active and successful rector of a great church.

Perhaps the reason is that certain incidents in Rainsford's early life stand out as peculiarly touching and significant. For example, he relates how once, when he was a child, sick at heart and lonely, his mother devoted a whole morning to walking with him and instilling him with fresh hope.

One regrets that the chapters concerning Rainsford's childhood are necessarily few. Passing on to the stormier period of his youth, we see him as a boy in London, as a traveler in southern France, and later as an explorer of the great unmapped wilderness of Western Canada. We observe him making his choice of professions, and by slow degrees deciding to be a minister; we watch him taking his final leave of England, serving as an alien

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